NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS RELATING TO

AGRICULTURE & DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

BY THE EDITOR.

BARNS AND BARN FLOORS.

We have given, page 361, some remarks on this subject; but the following additional observations may perhaps be useful.

In constructing the floors of barns, care should be taken that they be made firm, dry, and solid, affording no place of refuge for reptiles, small animals, &c. To effect this purpose, it is recommended that the surface of the ground under the floor should be dug away to the depth of about six inches, and the earth taken out, when of a proper kind, and, after being well cleared of stones, be mixed with clay and made into a stiff mortar, which as it cracks in drying is beaten down till it becomes solid.

The ancients were remarkably careful in the construction of their threshing floors. Columella states that they used to dig up the ground to some depth in order to moisten it with fresh lees of oil, but not with any that had saline matters in them; then to mix it thoroughly with chaff, and ram it down as close as possible; afterwards as it dried, to stop all the cracks and crevices that appeared, they continued beating it down with great force to render it quite level. They then strewed it again with chaff, which they trod in, and left it to be completely dried by the sun. The lees of oil were probably intended to preserve the floors from dampness, which is a great advantage. Rees' Cyclopedia observes that "a floor made in this manner, though not good, was probably preferable to either stone or the earthen floors formerly common in many parts of this country, from which such dampness has been communicated to the grain, as has rendered wheat, for example, sixpence or a shilling a bushel the worse either for keeping or exportation. Bricks, when hard and well made, may form a tolerable floor for many purposes; but from their attracting moisture, are not by any means to be recommended where grain is to remain much on them; and stones are liable to the same objections.

"Wood is much the best for this use. Boarded threshing floors, made of sound, thick, well seasoned planks of oak, are excellent for threshing upon, will last a long time, and may be converted into good floorings for rooms, by planing them down after they become too uneven for the purpose intended.

"There are various ways of laying and constructing barn floors, when made of wood.—The most common method is that of nailing the planks, after their edges have been shot true and well joined, down to wooden sleepers firmly placed on the ground. But in the mid land counties another method is followed, which Mr. Marshall says, is that of first having the floors laid with bricks, and then covering them over with the planks, without any other confinement than having them doweled together, or ploughed and tongued, and their ends let into the sills or walls, placed in the usual manner on each side of the floors. The advantages of this method of making the floors are, that when the brick work is well executed and made perfectly level, vermin cannot be concealed underneath them, nor damp air be communicated; besides, floors formed in this way are found to wear better than those placed simply on sleepers."

The author of "Letters of Agricola," after condemning the mode in which barn floors have usually been constructed, in Nova Scotia, (which is probably similar to our usual method) gives the following directions for obviating its evils: "After tearing up the planks, and building the foundation round and round, close to the sills, the void should then be filled and packed firm with earth. As there will be a necessity to cut away all the present sleepers or joists, which besides supporting the planks, bind and unite the two sides of the frame, pieces of square timber may be stretched across the whole breadth and at a lower depth, and be secured to the bottom of the sills, either by a mortise, or by driving down an iron bolt. By this means the strength of the frame will be preserved unimpaired, and the operations may proceed without endangering the structure. The earth should then be filled in, till it rises to the level with the present floor, and it should be beaten down with a heavy mallet, till it is completely consolidated. A stratum of clay should next be laid over the whole surface, by which the moisture may be retained and hindered from escaping through the earth." He advises to place the planks, which are to compose this floor, while the clay is yet a little yielding, that they may be imbedded with the greater firmness.

Dr. Deane observes that the threshing floor should be laid on strong and steady sleepers, well supported from beneath; otherwise carting in loads upon it will soon loosen it, and render it unfit for the operation of threshing. It should be well seasoned, and nicely jointed; and care should be taken to keep it very tight. If it should be so open as to let grain or other seeds pass through, the grain will serve to feed and increase vermin. These directions appear to proceed on the supposition that a space is left between the bottom of the floor, and the surface of the ground. Such space however should never be left unless it can be converted to some purpose more useful than that of harboring vermin; as it may be if situated seven or eight or more feet from the ground, according to Mr. Gibson's directions, as given in our paper, page 361. Indeed there are said to be advantages in setting the floor at some distance from the ground, so that it may have some spring or elasticity, which causes the grain to thresh out with more facility. But the mode of placing barn floors practised in some instances which have fallen within our notice, is the very worst which could be devised. We have seen them in many places laid from 6 to 24 inches from the ground, affording a convenient dwelling place for skunks, woodchucks, hedgehogs, cats, puppies, weevils, worms, bugs, and other insects of all known and unknown denominations; rats, mice, chickens, and other poultry; toads, snakes, &c. &c. In this strong hold of noxious and filthy animals and animalculæ, all creeping and flying things which can vex, annoy and plunder the farmer, find a city of refuge, a secure asylum, and hiss or growl defiance to his attempts to dislodge them with a long handled pitch-fork or a pointed sled stake.

Where threshing machines are used, there is less need of large barns than where the flail is the only implement for separating the straw from the grain. Sir John Sinclair says "Nothing can be more absurd than the enormous barns usually attached to all the great farms in England. Grain in the straw keeps infinitely better in the open air than in close barns; it is less apt to be destroyed by vermin, and saves the enormous expense of constructing and repairing great barns. Threshing mills, when generally introduced, will soon prove the absurdity of erecting such unnecessary buildings."

The calculations of Sir John Sinclair, however, are not precisely adapted to our meridian or hemisphere, although perhaps the introduction of threshing machines might have some influence to diminish the size of our barns in certain cases. Judge Peters well observes, that "When the farm becomes productive, it seldom or ever happens that the barn is too large. The most general mistake is, that it is too small; and most commonly the floor is too narrow for treading out crops with horses, or using our simple machines for threshing. In the moist countries of Europe, wherein there are late harvests, stacking is preferred to confining grain in barns, which is said to be injurious, on account of retaining dampness, and promoting mouldiness both in hay and straw. But in our climate, favoring early harvests, with generally fine weather, no such consequences follow, and barns are all essential."

GENERAL CAUTIONS IN COUNTRY COOKERY.

Soups are never to be filled up or have even a drop of water, hot or cold, added; and are never to boil briskly. They are to be long, long over the fire, *simmering* rather than boiling. And all soups having roots or herbs, are to have the meat laid on the bottom of the pan, with a good lump of butter. The herbs and roots being cut small are laid on the meat. It is then *covered close*, and set on a *very slow fire*. This draws out all the virtue of the roots and herbs, and turns out a good gravy, with a fine flavor, from what it would be if the water was put in at first. When the gravy is almost dried up, *then* fill the pan with water; and when it begins to boil, take off the fat.——Never *boil* fish, but only *simmer*, till enough.——Beef quick boiled, is thereby hardened; *simmer* or slow boil it, in not too much water.——Veal and poultry are to be dusted with flour, and put into the kettle in *cold water*. Cover and boil *slow as possible*, skimming the water clean. It is the worst of faults to boil any meat fast.——In baking pies, a *quick* oven, *well closed*, prevents falling of the crust.

Wasteful or indolent people overlook calculation; and too many may think but little of the wholesome and nourishing qualities of food.—But here are well informed and most actively good men, recommending to the world the re-

sults of much inquiry and experience therein. However lightly may be thought of a cent on a single meal of victuals, yet when the sum of a year's meals is calculated, for a person, a family, and a nation, it becomes striking and important. A cent for a meal, amounts to three cents a day.

One person, at three cents a day,	dols.
saves in the year	11
One family of five persons	55
A nation of five millions of people	55,000,000

The cent thus saved by the good house-wife, on every *plentiful* meal of the *wholesomest* food, would be sufficient for maintaining the most desperate war by the freemen of America, in defence of their country, against the wiles and the violences of the great enlightened world!

Bordley's Husbandry.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

I have observed in your paper, No. 43, a piece on the science of *Lunaism*, signed Daniel Staples, and after a long life of observation would remark that I have never had just cause to accuse the moon of interfering with my farming business, or officiously disclosing my secrets, and that the *science* of the moon's influence is beyond my feeble comprehension. But if the moon has such a powerful influence, I would advise my fellow citizens to be cautious how they give her just cause of offence, lest she should retaliate, as her place of residence is not within our civil or military jurisdiction.

I believe that the sap or moisture in wood, fermenting and corroding, occasions its rotting; therefore the season when the least of that is in the pores of the wood is the right time to fell it to render the wood most durable, and that opinion is agreeable to what I have formerly written. Neither do I believe from all my observations that the moon has ever interfered with her influence in my orchard, or my time for grafting; yet from the numerous accounts that I have had from people of credit, I have charity to believe that good bearing apple trees have been raised by sticking limbs in the ground. To learn the time or mode thereof, I have tried abundance of experiments, and all in vain. If the limbs that we prune off our best kind of apple trees could by any ready process be made to grow and flourish equal to young trees, it would be the desideratum of every orchardist; and it is most earnestly desired that any gentleman, having a knowledge of a successful mode of this kind, may publish it for the good of the public. SAMUEL PRESTON.

Stockport, Pa. June 5, 1823.

From the second volume of the Memoirs of the Board of Agriculture of the State of New York.

ON THE APPLICATION OF STABLE MANURES.

[By J. Buel, of Albany.]

The experiments of Arthur Young, and of other practical and scientific farmers, have demonstrated, that animal and vegetable manures, which undergo a complete process of fermentation in the cattle yards, or upon the surface of the ground, lose from 30 to 60 per cent. of their fertilizing properties; and if properly spread, and buried under the soil, that this loss is prevented—and that a decomposition does immediately take place, even of dry straw, sufficient to answer valuable purposes to the first crop. Mr. Young, whose correctness and practical knowledge will not be questioned by any one who knows his biography or his usefulness, measured five equal pieces of ground: upon the first piece he put nothing; on the second he buried dry straw, chopped fine; on the third, straw steeped three hours in fresh urine; on the fourth, straw steeped fifteen hours; and on the fifth, straw steeped three days in like manner. The whole was sowed with barley. The produce of each piece, in grain, and in weight of grain and straw, was as follows:

	Grain.	Weight of grain & straw.
No. 1,	9	48
2,	39	100
3,	50	120
4,	63	130
5,	126	300

This experiment demonstrates two important facts. 1st, that even dry straw, buried under the soil, decomposes, and greatly improves the first crop. 2d, that the urine of animals, which is ordinarily lost to our farmers, is the most fertilizing product of the stable and yard. We have a strong corroboration of the latter in the history of Flemish husbandry. Radcliff, in his report of the agriculture of Flanders, speaks of urine as constituting the most valuable part of the manure used in those highly cultivated provinces. He cites an instance, where the urine of 44 cattle, by the adventitious aid of rape-cake, and the *vidanges* from the privies, manured in the best manner twenty-one English acres per annum. The urine is collected in large cisterns under ground, into which drains lead from the stables, where the cattle are kept winter and summer. Although I do not expect to see this practice of the Flemings imitated by our farmers, yet I hope the narrative of the preceding fact will not be lost upon them. It shows the importance of constructing concave yards for our cattle, which will retain the urine and moisture, until it is absorbed by the straw, husks, stalks, and other vegetable litter of the yard.

It has become a pretty well settled principle among good farmers, that we should never delay applying manure, because it is unfermented or unrotted; but, on the contrary, that they are the most profitably applied before fermentation commences, or while it is in an incipient state. The main object of this essay remains to be considered. To what crops shall we apply them?

The experience of almost every farmer will testify, that, except on very poor soils, they ought not to be applied, in any considerable quantity, to wheat, rye, barley, or any of the small grains. They often cause, in these, a too luxurious growth, and a greater product of straw than of grain. The straw is tender, is subject to the rust and the mildew, and the grain liable to blast—besides, the crop is apt to lodge and spoil, in consequence. Another serious injury is, the propagation of weeds and grasses, the seeds of which are carried out in the manure, and which cannot be extirpated in the growing crop. To apply manures upon the surface of grass lands, unless of a mineral kind, or in the form of a liquid, or impalpable powder, is throwing away one half of their value. And peas and flax do not do well under their first operation. Arthur Young's rule, and it is a good one, is, always to apply your manure to hoeing crops.

These are Indian corn, potatoes, beans, and the whole family of vegetables. These can bear, and they want, all the gasses which are evolved in the first process of fermentation.—The gasses open the texture of the soil, and render it pervious to heat, air, and light, and impart food to the young plants; and the hoeing process exterminates all useless plants, and renders the ground clean and loose. When applied to the maize crop, the manure should be spread before the last ploughing. The roots of this grain are numerous, extend to a great length, and elongate most where there is nutriment and tilth to invite. Placed in the hill, the manure gives a temporary impulse to the growth of the plant, and fails in its benefits when most wanted to the maturing seed. It answers also best when spread, for the succeeding crop, which is always some small grain. These reasons all hold good in regard to spreading manure for the bean crop, whether that is cultivated in hills, drills, or the broadcast method. For potatoes, whose roots do not extend far, the manure is most serviceable, when applied to the hills, or drills.—For ruta baga, mangel wurtzel, cabbage or turnips, its benefits are multiplied when it is placed under the ridges upon which these crops are planted. It renders the recumbent soil light and friable, attracts moisture, and yields an abundance of food where it is alone wanted for the growing crop.

Either of these crops, if manured, leave the ground in good tilth, and free from weeds, and may be followed with advantage by wheat, rye, barley or oats, according to the quality of the soil. The manure, applied in the spring, gives most of the benefits to the small grain crop which it would have done, had it been left to ferment in the yard; and then applied to that in the first instance.

From the Mass. Agricultural Journal, for June 1823.

THE CAROLINA POTATO, OR SWEET POTATO.

This plant is not a potato, though there is a vulgar opinion, that the common potato transplanted to southern regions becomes sweet, and that the sweet potato on being carried to northern climes degenerates into the common potato. The common potato is what the botanists have named a Solanum. It is not a running plant. Its native country is probably the high lands of South America—a cold region. It delights in cold seasons, and a moist soil, and it is a fact, that it is drier and more mealy, when raised in such soils, than in dry ones. The best potatoes known are raised in the wet, flat and almost overflown grounds of Lancashire in England; and in Ireland, so famous for its moisture and verdure, as to have received the appellation of the Emerald Isle. It flourishes admirably in the fogs of Nova Scotia and the lower parts of the state of Maine. The sweet potato has no title to be called the Carolina potato.—It is an exotic, or foreign plant with them. It is a native of tropical regions; has been gradually introduced northerly, like the Lima or Saba, commonly pronounced, Civet bean. The sweet potato is not a solanum, but a convolvulus; has all the habits of the tribe of the convolvulus; it is a running or creeping plant. It never flowers in our country. It is very hardy—is capable of bearing more frost than the common potato, but in wet seasons it is watery and less sweet. It may prove my great zeal, and somewhat theoretical turn, to recommend *again* the culture of this vegetable in Massachusetts, but

four years experience gives me some right to speak of it *practically*.

I recommend its culture on the following grounds.

First. It will grow and succeed here under ordinary culture.

Secondly. It is very prolific, making as good returns as the common potato.

Thirdly. It is preferred by man, bearing usually a price three times as great with us as the common potato.

Fourthly. It is preferred by all animals of whatever description. Cows and pigs eat it greedily, and even dunghill fowls will attack and consume it in a raw state.

It will produce about 300 bushels to the acre. I have never failed to raise it with success.—The only impediment to its culture is the difficulty of preserving the small tubes or roots; but as soon as it is known that there will be a demand for them, our market will be regularly supplied from New Jersey, where it has been long naturalized. It can be as easily raised as cabbages. This I undertake to affirm.

J. LOWELL.

I would not be supposed to recommend this article except for the culture of the southern and eastern parts of the State, nor even there, except as a cheap luxury.

From the same Publication.

Receipt for destroying Caterpillars, used by the society of christians called Shakers, at Canterbury, New-Hampshire.

"Take equal parts of turpentine, and train oil; apply them by means of a swab fixed on a pole, commence the operation in the spring, (we suppose on the first appearance of nests) when these devouring insects begin to appear, and *repeat the operation once a week*, till the trees are in blow, and very few will escape with their lives."

Signed F. W. the head of the Family.

We must express our admiration of this receipt, not because of its novelty, for either of the ingredients would be quite sufficient to kill the insects, as will common soap suds from every Monday's wash *most thoroughly*, without train oil or spirits of turpentine; but we admire it, as a specimen of the practice and industry of these citizens. If our farmers would only follow *that part* of the receipt, which requires *a weekly attention*, for three successive weeks, it is immaterial whether they use spirits of turpentine or soap suds, or the brush proposed by Col. Pickering, the evil would be cured at *any* rate.—The great difficulty is the neglect to do *any thing*, till after the Caterpillars have covered the trees with nests. Then the labours of the sluggard commence, and *one* tree, (let his receipt be ever so perfect and powerful) will cost as much time and labour as ten trees would have required three weeks sooner. If our farmers would only adopt *that portion* of the receipt, which requires a *weekly attack* on this enemy, the evil would soon cease, and in ten years we should scarce see a caterpillar in the country. By this course continually pursued, we have so much reduced the labour, that we have not one fourth part of the number we had three years ago.—*Editor Journal.*

From the Domestic Encyclopedia.

Use of Sulphur, in destroying Insects on Plants, and its Benefits for Vegetation.

Tie up some flour of sulphur in a piece of muslin or fine linen, and with this the leaves of young shoots of plants should be dusted, or it may be thrown on them by means of a common swansdown puff, or even a dredging-box.

Fresh assurances have repeatedly been received of the powerful influence of sulphur against the whole tribe of insects and worms which infest and prey upon vegetables. Sulphur has also been found to promote the health of plants on which it was sprinkled: and that peach trees, in particular, were remarkably improved by it. It has likewise been observed, that the verdure, and other healthful appearances, were perceptibly increased; for the quantity of new shoots and leaves formed subsequently to the operation, and having no sulphur on their surfaces, served as a comparative index, and pointed out distinctly the accumulation of health.

From the New York Statesman.

THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE.

If report speaks truth, the wildest dream of the Alchymist has been more than realized by the achievements of science and genius of modern discovery; and if the long sought for philosopher's stone, by which baser substances could be transmitted into gold, has not yet been found, an invention of still greater importance has at length crowned the efforts of American chemists. It has long been known that the diamond, the most precious of all substances, is composed of carbon in its pure state. But although the powers of chemical analysis have been sufficient by repeated experiments clearly to establish this fact; yet the knowledge of it was of no practical importance to the world, because the powers of synthesis, were not coextensive with those of analysis; and no mode had been devised of imitating nature by uniting the constituents of this precious gem. In other words, the philosopher was able to convert diamonds into carbon; but he was ignorant of the art of converting carbon into diamonds.

If the experiments of Professor Silliman can be relied on, this invaluable desideratum has in part been supplied. The last number of his Journal of Science contains an article on the philosophical instrument called the *Deflagrator*, invented by Professor Hare, of Philadelphia, by which it appears that charcoal, plumbago and anthracite have been fused by the power of that instrument, and transmuted into diamonds. The following extract contains his statement of the result of his experiment:

"On the end of the prepared charcoal and occupying frequently an area of a quarter of an inch or more in diameter, were found numerous globules of perfectly melted matter entirely spherical in their form, having a high vitreous lustre and a great degree of beauty.—Some of them, and generally they were those most remote from the focus, were of a jet black like the most perfect obsidian; others were brown, yellow, and topaz coloured; others still were greyish white, like pearl stones, with the translucence and lustre of porcelain; and others still limpid like flint glass, or in some cases like hyalite or precious opal, but without the iridescence of the latter."

"I detached some of the globules and firmly bedding them in a handle of wood, tried their hardness and firmness; they bore strong pressure without breaking, and easily scratched not only flint glass but window glass, and even the hard green variety which forms the aquafortis bottles. The globules which had acquired this extraordinary hardness, were formed from plumbago, which was so soft that it was perfectly free from resistance when crushed between the thumb and finger."

It is said the globules obtained by these experiments of Professor Silliman are perfectly limpid, and could not be distinguished from portions of diamond; that they cannot be of vitrified earthy substance contained in the plumbago; and that they are as strictly nonconductors of electricity, as the diamond itself. Such striking analogies would seem to leave little doubt of the identity of the two substances.—The artificial gems have the brilliancy and hardness of the natural ones, and are derived from materials containing the constituents of the diamond. But lest we should be deemed too sanguine, we will add Mr. Silliman's own comment on the result of the experiment, and those who are acquainted with his temperament can judge of the degree of confidence to which the discovery is entitled. The Editor of the National Gazette remarks, that the following sentence is characteristic of this eminent chemist's modesty: "It will now probably not be deemed extravagant," says the Journal, "if we conclude that our melted carbonaceous substances approximate very nearly to the condition of diamond."

Should this discovery be fully confirmed, it will form an era in science, and figuratively as well as literally, shed *new lustre* upon our country. The names of Silliman and Hare will be placed on the same roll with that of Franklin, and handed down to future ages, for the admiration of the world. Countries have been bought and sold for a single diamond; and what would be the triumphs of American genius and philosophy, if we could hereafter see domestick manufactories of this article established, and the coal of our markets transmuted into gems, to sparkle on the breast of beauty, taste, and fashion?

POTATO-YEAST, BY KIRBY.

The principles in this, are allied to the preparations for producing Anderson's potato spirit. Kirby recommends the *mealy* sort to be boiled till thoroughly soft; mashed till very smooth; with hot water put to the mash, till of the consistency of beer yeast, and not thicker. To every pound of potatoes add two ounces of coarse sugar or molasses. When but just warm, for every pound of potatoes, stir in two spoonfuls of yeast, and keep it gently warm till done fermenting. He says, a pound of potatoes yield near a quart of yeast, to keep three months: and he directs that the dough lie eight hours before it be put to the oven. This shews that the ferment, however sure, is slow. I would have the potatoes to be thoroughly *ripe*, and well *sprouted*; for the reasons mentioned under the head of potato spirit.

CABBAGE PLANTS.

Compared cabbages *transplanted*, with others *not once moved*. The *unmoved* grew and were better than the *moved*.—*Bordley's Husbandry.*

From the Mass. Agricultural Repository.

ON THE MANAGEMENT OF ORCHARDS.

The zeal which has of late been manifested in effecting more beneficial modes of culture of our annual crops of grain and other vegetables, the science and economy so usefully inculcated and observed in preserving and in applying the multiplied discoveries of the means of stimulating vegetable growth and increase, as well as the spirit of improvement in the general implements of agriculture, cannot fail to advance the interests of the country, and afford a lively gratification to the agriculturist.

There is an object of culture, however, the advantage of which, if not so immediate, or even necessary, yet adds much to the comfort, happiness and wealth of the farmer, and may be considered his proper pride and luxury—the apple tree.

There is a moral consideration, which should induce an attention to this subject, in the opinion held by many, that cider should supersede, and is the best substitute for spirituous liquors.

Taken as a luxury of our table, as furnishing an excellent drink, as it were the wine of our country, or as an article of export, the apple stands foremost in the fruits of New England. It should not be forgotten, that of late, in addition to the usual markets, a very great export has taken place to Europe, and that the flavor of our apple is highly estimated there.

It may be useful to inquire what is the condition of our orchards? are they not in a state of decline? what are the causes? and how to be obviated? But most of all, it will be of great importance, if more attention can be excited to this subject, so as to encourage communications from the experience of our intelligent farmers; or if any hint should be suggested herein, by which, those disposed to add a fruitful orchard to their farms may find aid or encouragement.

As to the state of our orchards, it is believed from a careful inquiry, that in those parts of the Commonwealth longest settled, they are on the decline. Among the causes that have induced this, besides the natural decay of old orchards, and the neglect to set out and bring on new ones, may be mentioned—the desolating canker worm, the caterpillar, and the boring worm, at the root. The blowing down of a vast number in Norfolk and Bristol, particularly in the September gale, in 1815, and the great injury done some years since, by the formation of ice upon trees, whereby they have been overburthened and broken down; all these causes have conspired to diminish the number, more than is at present apprehended.

From experience and observation, it will, it is believed, result, that even though there may be some life and vigor in those trees which were hoisted and propped up; yet they will give but little fruit, and pass into premature decay. The breaking off the great lateral roots is generally a decisive injury to the tree, besides exposing it to blow over, whenever its props become weak, insecure or displaced.

In obviating the evils which beset our trees, the modes are various, and require great labor and application. They are too often abandoned to the canker worm and caterpillar, to the total loss of fruit and foliage. Thus the tree, by putting forth its leaves twice a year in an annual recurrence, becomes exhausted, unhealthy, and is often totally destroyed.

Many preventatives to the ravages of the canker worm have been practised. The use of tar is most frequent and effectual; but as it injures the tree by its heating and binding nature, it would be very desirable for the fertility and vigor of the orchard, if some more easy and less injurious mode could be suggested. As to the caterpillar, whenever the tree is bare of leaves, and the eggs can be discovered and destroyed, which is practicable upon low and small trees, it is most effectual. A flapper is used by some, dipped in fish oil and applied to the nests, but the removal of them by hand, though slow, has, when the caterpillar is in the nest, been of necessity the prevailing practice. It is, to be sure, slow, and it is to be wished a better mode might be suggested.* The injury done by the worm which perforates and bores its way into the centre of young apple trees, threatens great injury, and one of our Trustees (Mr. Prince) has practised a mode of destroying it in the tree, by the insertion of a wire, as described in the last number of this Repository. But it is to be hoped that some application at the rim of the tree, near the root, may be found out, which may prove obnoxious to the insect which deposits the egg, and remove the apprehension and alarm excited by this last enemy. The decay and other injuries mentioned, whether natural or accidental, are such as cannot be guarded against in any considerable degree. The prudence and good management of our farmers will always effect something. If then, our orchards are on the decline from age and other circumstances, and we have been inattentive to bring forward a new growth, would it not be useful to turn our attention to this subject. The value of the fruit should induce the culture of the tree.

The situation for an orchard is well understood by our farmers. It flourishes best in a moist and strong stony soil, where it is not exposed to the wind. It cannot be attempted with success to bring forward an orchard in an old field, a green sward, or an exposed state, to be rubbed against by cattle.

It is, however, more easy than is generally supposed, to overcome many natural disadvantages, and an orchard may be brought forward, and made productive in a few years, in a situation (when wished) not so favorable. To shew this, two cases will be mentioned which have been attended with good success.

In the one, a low piece of strong stony land was taken. As it was rather flat, it was ploughed in strips, or dug in spaces about four feet square. As it was necessary to plough a furrow between each row, the mode of ploughing in strips was found the best, as by turning the furrow towards the tree, the land was better drained. Besides raising the ground a little from the surrounding soil, half a buckload of loom was added to raise the ground on which the tree was set. After this was done, the strips or squares, as the case might be, were appropriated to the culture of potatoes and garden vegetables. In a few places only, the trees failed from the insufficiency of the drain. But by opening the drain and raising the ground, by half a buckload of loom, I found on setting out a new tree, it flourished equally with the rest. This orchard, now in eight years, is a most valuable one, and most of the trees would give half a barrel of apples.

From this and other circumstances which have fallen within my observation, it appears that low land, if strong and well drained, will give a fine orchard, and probably sooner than any other.

The next effort was made under totally opposite circumstances. The object was, to have an orchard on a particular spot, where the soil was thin and light upon a plain or flat. The holes were dug four feet over. The two upper strata of black and yellow loam were placed aside the tree. After this, about ten inches in depth of the gravelly or poorer earth was taken out and carted off, and a horse-cart load of stones upset into the hole; upon these, a part of the upper stratum, or some dirt from the side of the road was scattered so as to fill up the interstices, since which the spots near the trees have been cultivated, by planting four hills of potatoes round each tree. The result has been tolerably favorable with all But the trees having the stones placed at the roots have exceedingly outstripped the others.*

From the result it is to be hoped, that in this easy mode, disadvantages may be counteracted, and the benefit of a deep soil had for the growth of an orchard near our dwellings, or wherever wished. As to the distance, I incline to less than is general. The best orchards I have seen have been from 25 to 30 feet distance. This is the more important, as the land if fed at all, should only be occasionally cropped a little by horses. Horned cattle, if freely admitted, will soon disappoint all expectation. It will be perceived in the difficulty of raising an orchard, an old and long improved soil is alluded to. In a new soil where the apple tree is introduced, in clearing off the forest, in this part of the country, as well as Upper Canada, they set out a tree which they often defend by upsetting a stump, so as to enclose it between roots, and they have fruit very soon indeed.

The profit of a fine orchard is familiar to our farmers. The fact is well known in this neigh borhood, that 160 barrels of apples were gathered a few years since, from less than two acres in the town of Dorchester. This, with the cider made from the refuse apples, and grass, gave about $300 per acre; an income rarely exceeded in the improvement of soil. I have been minute and particular, from a wish, that others better informed, may be induced to communicate the advantages of their experience. A fine orchard is not only a source of emolument to a farmer, but one of the most beautiful and gratifying objects that can adorn a country.

I am yours, JOHN WELLES.

* The brush recommended by Col. Pickering in a communication published in our paper, page 308, is perhaps as eligible and effectual a remedy against caterpillars as any which can be devised.—*Ed. N. E. F.*

* The dimensions of the Trees in the first experiment —a rich, low, black, stony soil, drained, were at the expiration of eight years 15 to 17 inches circumference, one foot from the ground. This may be considered (the tree being small when set out,) as a growth of about two inches a year. The growth in the second experiment for six years, was, 12 to 14 inches in the holes, in which the stones were put one foot from the ground. Where no stones were put, nine inches was the growth. It will thus be perceived, that the vegetation was most powerful under circumstances by nature least favorable. If then, thus much can be done to counteract such disadvantages, it surely offers much encouragement to our efforts, and leads us to hope, that not only in this, but in other objects, they may be beneficially extended.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1823.

The Farmer's and Gardener's Remembrancer.

JUNE.

HAY-MAKING.--The best time to cut grass for hay is when the seeds are forming, but before they become fully ripe. It should not be cut too early before it has got its proper growth, because, in such case, it will shrink much in drying, and afford a less solid and nutritious substance. Neither should it be suffered to stand too late, or till the seed be quite ripe. It will not only be harder to cut, but the ripeness of the seed will cause it to shatter out while drying, which will be a loss of some consequence, as the seed is the richest and most nourishing part; and the soil will be the more exhausted by nourishing the seed till it comes to maturity. The only advantage in mowing late arises from the thickening of the grass roots by scattering some of the seeds. But this is a dear mode of sowing grass seeds.

If it is proposed to mow a piece of grass land twice in a season, the first crop should be cut earlier than when it is mowed but once, not only to give a longer time for the growth of the second crop, but to prevent the roots of the grass from being too much exhausted in producing the first crop. When it is proposed to save the seeds of red clover it is particularly important to cut the first crop early, so that the second, from which the seeds are procured, may be the sooner ready for cutting in autumn. In common cases clover should not be mowed till it begins to turn brown; but as the farmer who has many acres in grass cannot cut it all exactly in the best season, he may begin first on that clover from which he expects to gather seed on cutting the second crop, and not wait till it has changed from red to brown. In other cases he should cut the thickest grass, that which is lodged or is in danger of lodging, in the first place. The thinnest should be cut next; and last of all that which is on a medium between thick and thin.

Some regard must be had to the weather in cutting grass for hay, especially if that grass is clover, which requires much attention and favorable circumstances to preserve. If the weather is wet and improper for haying, clover will, we are told, remain standing a fortnight, without sustaining any material injury by the shedding the leaf or the blossom; for the same weather which renders it improper to mow this grass, continues it in a growing state, and prevents the bloom from fading or dying away.

There are various modes of making hay described by authors on husbandry, some of which are too troublesome and expensive to be adopted in this country where labor is scarce. We shall state several methods, and leave it to our readers, either to take their choice of those, or to give the preference to something different of their own invention. The Farmer's Assistant says, "The best plan is, for the farmer to be at his mowing betimes in the morning; cut down as much as possible by nine or ten o'clock, by which time the dew will be off; then spread the mowed grass evenly, and about twelve turn it over where it lies thick; in the afternoon rake it into winrows, shake it up lightly that it may be the better exposed to the air; towards sun down make it into neat small cocks, and let it remain so a day or two. If it be not then sufficiently dry, shake it out again on a small space of ground, and turn it over till it is dried; then cock it again, if necessary, and as soon afterwards as possible draw it in.

"But in order to save much trouble in drying hay, the application of from four to eight quarts of salt to the ton is recommended. It is found that hay, thus salted, can be well saved in a much greener state, and at the same time the benefit which the hay derives from the salt is more than four-fold its value."

It is observed by Dr. Deane, that, "Were it not for the labor and cost, a good way of haymaking would be, for the hay-makers to follow at the heels of the mowers, at least as soon as the dew is off, and spread the swarths evenly; turn the grass about the middle of the same day; make it up into cocks before night; open the hay, and turn it the next day; and so on till it be sufficiently dried, doubling the cocks if signs of rain appear. It will not commonly take more than two or three days to dry it, unless it be very green, or uncommonly thick and rank."

The practice of the best English, Flemish and French farmers, is to expose the hay as little as possible to the sun. It is carried in dry, but preserves its green color; and hay of two or three years old appears so bright that you would scarcely conceive it to be cured. Yet they preserve it for years, and value it the more for its age. In Scotland "the best managers disapprove of spreading out clover or rye grass hay. The more the swarth is kept unbroken, the hay is the greener and more fragrant."*

When the grass is thin, and somewhat dried before it is mowed, it may be cut in the forenoon, and raked in the afternoon of the same day, and by standing two or three days in the cock, will be sufficiently dry, without any further trouble. If rain fall in any considerable quantity, these cocks will require to be opened and exposed to the sun for a few hours. If a small quantity of rain has fallen, it may be enough to pull out some of the hay round the bottoms of the cocks, or only on that side which was to the windward when the rain fell, and lay it on the tops. If the cocks are so situated that the water has run much under their bottoms, they should be turned bottom upwards, and trimmed at least; but it will most commonly be necessary to spread them abroad. When hay becomes too dry it should be carted either in the evening or morning, and when the air is damp.

"A very ingenious gentleman of my acquaintance does not permit his grass to lie in swarth but for an hour or two after it is cut, or no longer than till its wetness be gone, and it just begins to appear withered. He then gathers it into very small parcels, which he calls grass cocks, not more than a good forkfull in each; turns them over once in a while, about sun set is the best time; doubles them as they grow drier; and when the hay is almost dry enough, makes up the whole into large cocks. Grass which is thus dried will not waste at all by crumbling; nor will much of its juices evaporate. I have seen his hay, the flavor of which excelled almost any other that I have met with. The color of it, indeed, was rather yellowish than green, but that is a matter of no consequence to the farmer, who does not send his hay to market. I cannot but think that in dry settled weather, this is an excellent method of hay-making; but in catching weather, perhaps a method which takes less time is to be preferred."* From the above Dr. Anderson's method is not much different. "Instead," says he, "of allowing the hay to lie, as usual in most places, for some days in the swarth, after it is cut, and afterwards putting it up into cocks, and spreading it out, and drying it in the sun, which tends greatly to bleach the hay, exhales its natural juices, and subjects it very much to the danger of getting rain, and thus runs a great risk of being good for little, I make it a general rule, if possible, never to cut my hay but when the grass is quite dry, and then make the gatherers follow close upon the cutters, putting it up immediately into small cocks, about three feet high each when newly put up, always giving each of them a slight kind of thatching, by drawing a few handfuls of hay from the bottom of the cock all around, and laying it lightly on the top, with one of the ends hanging downwards. This is done with the utmost ease and expedition; and when it is once in that state, I consider my hay as in a great measure out of danger; for unless a violent wind should arise immediately after the cocks are made, so as to overturn them, nothing else can hurt the hay; as I have often experienced that no rain, however violent, ever penetrates into these cocks but a very little way. And if they are dry put up they never sit together so closely as to heat, although they acquire in a day or two such a degree of firmness, as to be in no danger of being overturned by wind after that time, unless it blows a hurricane.

"In these cocks I allow the hay to remain until, upon inspection, I judge that it will keep in pretty large tramp cocks, &c. The advantages that attend this method are that it greatly abridges the labor, that it allows the hay to continue almost as green as when it is cut, and preserves it in its natural juices in the greatest perfection; for it is dried in the most slow and equal manner that can be desired. Lastly, that it is thus in a great measure secured from almost the possibility of being damaged by the rain."—*Essays on Agriculture.*

The Farmer's Manual says, "Whenever your clover has sweat and cured in the cock, so that you can select the largest stalks, and twist them like a string, without their emitting any moisture on the surface when twisted, you may then house your clover in its most perfect state. If you sow timothy or herd's grass with your clover, you may manage in this way for the first year with safety—the second year it will become about one half timothy, or herd's grass, and must be spread and turned gently, to preserve as much as possible the heads and leaves of your clover—the third year your clover will disappear, and the herd's grass must be cut and spread in the common mode; I say the common mode, for I presume that every farmer spreads his hay into three swarth winrows, (unless it be heavy English grass, of two or three tons to the acre, which will occupy all the surface of the field on which it grew to cure it;) this saves the expense and trouble of one raking, and that he spreads in the forenoon all the swarths cut before 12 o'clock, (leaving the swarths cut after

* Agricultural Report of Scotland.

* Deane's New England Farmer.

12 o'clock, to continue in swarth until the dew is off the next morning) and that he gets into cocks, before 5 or 6 o'clock in the afternoon, all the hay spread upon his field. The fermentation which hay undergoes by standing in the cock over night, not only sweetens the hay, but prepares it for a more rapid evaporation of its juices the next day, and will doubly pay the expense of cocking, besides the security it affords against bad weather."

The following methods of preventing hay from heating in the mow, are from the publication last above quoted.—"Let your bays be open under the bottom for a free circulation of air; fill several large bags with hay, set them erect upon the floor of your bays; place the hay around them with as little treading as possible; raise up your bags with the rise of your mow, and when your mow is finished, remove the bags: these openings will serve as ventilators, and secure your mows from heating. If you reserve your wheat or rye straw for this purpose, and cover your clover occasionally as you mow it, with straw, your straw will not only prevent your mow from heating, but imbibe the moisture of your clover, and become valuable food for your horses and cattle."

"Salt hay, in this country, has usually been hurt by lying too long in the swarth. The method in which I have treated it for several years, is to cock it the next day after it is cut, and put a layer of some kind of dry straw between load and load of it, in the mow, to prevent its taking damage by over heating. The straw contracts so much of its moisture and saltness that the cattle will eat it very freely, and the hay is far better than that made in the common way."

The following is from a communication to the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society, made by a gentleman by the name of LEWEN TUGWELL, and was published in the 12th volume of the papers of that Society. The volume itself we have not been able to place our hands on, and the Extract and succeeding remarks are obligingly furnished us from the minutes of a gentleman, to whom we have heretofore been indebted for favors connected with the objects of our publication; and whose literary and scientific labors have made valuable additions to the stock of public knowledge in the departments of Agriculture and Domestic Economy.

THE EXTRACT.

"In one corner (of the fire place) is a small stove for a boiler, or steam-kettle; or what would be infinitely preferable, but which, unfortunately, is not known to the lower orders of society, Papin's Digester. This culinary article being capable of raising heat in water to every requisite temperature, by its means may be prepared the most economical soups, Irish stews, bouillies, &c. drawing even from bones (otherwise thrown away) the most nourishing jellies, and extracting from them every nutritive particle."

"I purchased one of Papin's Digesters, at the recommendation of a lady (who from a most emaciated and exhausted state, bordering on consumption, was restored to sound and vigorous health by bone-jelly) and found it merited every praise she had bestowed on it, producing excellent soups and jellies from materials before thrown away."*

"In the other corner is placed an oven made only of one brick in thickness (2¼ inches) both at bottom and sides, and not more than one in breadth (4½ inches) on the top; the whole to be bedded and surrounded on all sides, above and below, with four inches of well-rammed wood ashes."—"Wood ashes being a bad conductor of caloric [or matter of heat] and thence keeping in all heat, such oven will not require more than a third part of the fuel usually consumed in the operation of heating. I had once an oven that being surrounded, and in continuity, with very thick walls on every side, and into whose substance the unseen fire [heat] passing in continual progress, it required twenty faggots to heat it! Of this I soon grew tired, and built another as above described, of the same dimensions, and which (the fire [or heat] not being suffered to pass beyond a single brick) would be heated at any time (although divested of previous warmth) with three of such faggots, and generally in about a sixth of the time of the former."

"As small sized ovens are made at the potteries in one entire piece, it would be singularly appropriate to bed them in these ashes, to prevent a migration of their heat beyond their own external parts. The fire place of the above Digester may also be surrounded with the same non-conducting substance."

A few remarks on Mr. Tugwell's statement may perhaps be useful. I suppose the wood-ashes must be made a little damp, to admit of their being "well-rammed." Admitting the non-conducting power of ashes, some might apprehend that the single tier of bricks forming the oven, would be incapable of receiving heat enough to bake a batch of bread; but I have found it sufficient (in a small oven constructed on Tugwell's plan,) thoroughly to bake pan-loaves of rye and Indian meal bread. Consequently it must be abundantly adequate to bake loaves of wheat meal. In constructing the small family oven, after it was formed with a single coat of bricks, I directed the mason to commence laying the exterior coat, leaving a space all round (excepting the mouth, of course) of three or four inches for the ashes; and as he carried up the work, the ashes were filled in, as far as the commencement of the arching, when the whole top of the oven received the coat of ashes; and then the brick work was laid over and completed it. In a word—two ovens were constructed, with three or four inches of rammed and pressed wood ashes in the space between them. The door of the oven was of soap stone, hung by a pair of hinges, shutting close into the rebates (commonly pronounced *rabbets*) of the jambs and head-piece (also of soap stone, which formed the mouth of the oven) and fastened with a latch.

Mr. Tugwell's oven must be singularly well adapted to the use of Bakers; and I hope some of them may be induced to make the experiment, and test its efficacy, as stated by him.

A well informed man, who before our revolution had been a master-baker in Philadelphia, once told me, that a very material portion of the profits of his business, which was extensive, *arose from his saving of fuel—for he never suffered his ovens to become cold.* That is, batch succeeded batch with so short intervals, that a small quantity of fuel served to raise the requisite heat. And Count Rumford, in his account of the establishment formed under his direction for the poor in Munich, states, that the first heating of the oven took 366 lbs. of dry pine wood. The following batches required less and less; until for the 6th batch 74 lbs. of wood sufficed; that is about a fifth part of what was necessary for the first.

* Dr. Papin, a French physician, published a description of his Digester in 1681; as you may see in Rees' Cyclopedia, article PAPIN. Though not introduced into the kitchen, it appears to be still used in chemical and philosophical experiments.

Massachusetts Agricultural Repository and Journal.

The last number of this valuable publication has just issued from the press of Messrs. Wells & Lilly. We have had time to give it but an imperfect and hasty perusal; but have seen enough to warrant the assertion that its articles are well written, and well selected, and cannot fail to prove profitable, as well as interesting, not only to the practical farmer, but to all who delight in the *Studies of Nature*, and wish to know by what laws her *system of economy* is regulated.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE

Closed its session on the 14th inst. A journal of their proceedings is probably in possession of most of our readers, who would feel an interest in its detail.—There has been but little said, but as much done, perhaps, as the public good requires. The following are the titles of some of the acts, not included in our last:

An act to incorporate the Bunker Hill Monument Association—to continue in force for the term of five years an act entitled an act for the encouragement of Agriculture and Manufactures—to incorporate the Merrimack Manufacturing Company—to incorporate the Boylston Medical Society of Harvard University—to incorporate the Newton Factories—to incorporate the West Boylston Manufacturing Company—for the relief of the Danvers Cotton Factory—to incorporate the Bristol County Agricultural Society—to incorporate the Braintree Manufacturing Company—to incorporate the Mansfield Union Cotton and Wool Manufactory.

FOREIGN.

An arrival at New York has brought advices from London to the 8th of May, which is ten days later than had previously been received. From the French armies in Spain we have accounts to the 30th of April. At that period D'Angouleme's corps remained at Vittoria. The right corps was at Burgos, almost half the distance between the frontier and Madrid. The left, under Marshal Moncey, had advanced some way in Catalonia, and was besieging Figueras; and the centre, under Gen. Moliter, had occupied Saragossa, and was still advancing. There has been but little fighting, and the Spaniards appear to be true to their system of not running the risk of great battles. Marshal Moncey having summoned the Governor of Figueras to surrender that fortress, the latter replied that he and the garrison were resolved to bury themselves under the ruins of the fortress rather than fail in the observance of their honor and their oaths. It has been reported that Russia has determined to take an active part in the war in favor of France, but nothing official on that subject has transpired. The Portuguese insurgents have been subdued or driven out of the kingdom. The Government of Great Britain has determined on preserving its neutrality, and to permit the two hostile nations to settle their disputes without her interference, and this determination has received the approbation of Parliament.

It was reported at Odessa on the 3d of April, that there had been another great fire at Constantinople, near the Seraglio.

MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Society for promoting Agriculture, held in this city on the 11th inst. the venerable President, Aaron Dexter, Esq. M. D. and Samuel W. Pomeroy, Esq. the first Vice President, declined a re-election. Votes of thanks were passed to the President for his able, zealous and faithful services for a period of thirty years, in the various offices of Trustee, Treasurer, Vice President, and President; with the cordial wishes of the Society, in his retiring from office, for his prosperity and happiness; and to Samuel W. Pomeroy, Esq. for his long and laborious services in the respective offices of Trustee and Vice President. The following gentlemen were elected officers of the Society for the year ensuing:

John Lowell, Esq. *President.*
Thomas L. Winthrop, Esq. *first Vice President.*
Hon. Israel Thorndike, *second Vice President.*
John Prince, Esq. *Treasurer.*
Hon. Richard Sullivan, *Cor. Secretary.*
Gorham Parsons, Esq. *Rec. Secretary.*
Benj. Guild, Esq. *Assistant Rec. Secretary.*

TRUSTEES.

Aaron Dexter, Esq.	Samuel G. Perkins, Esq.
Hon. Peter C. Brooks,	Hon. John Welles,
Hon. Josiah Quincy,	E. Hersey Derby, Esq.

On the 2d inst. Mr. Aaron Sherwood, of Bennington, Vt. sheared from one sheep eighteen pounds and fourteen oz. of washed wool, which was of a good quality and about sixteen inches in length. The sheep is four years old, and weighed, with the fleece on, one hundred and seventy-eight pounds.

Extraordinary Calf.—The Waterloo N. Y. Republican gives an account of a calf belonging to Mr. Charles Swift of that village, which was calved in Dec. last, from a very large and beautiful heifer, two years old this spring, and is of the breed called *English red.* At the age of three months the calf weighed 305 lbs.—at four, 412 lbs.—at five, 510 lbs. He has had nothing but hay, together with all the milk of the heifer, except about one quart per day, which was taken from her during the first six weeks. His bones are small and well proportioned.

Fires.—The Congregational Meeting-house in Southwick, Hampden Co. together with a two-story dwelling house adjoining, was destroyed by fire on the 6th inst.

A large stable, and fourteen dwelling houses and stores were consumed by fire at Fredericksburg, Virg. on the 9th inst. Twenty horses perished in the flames, and the whole loss of property is estimated at $60,000.

Three sons of Gen. Paez, of the Republic of Colombia, have been admitted to the Military Academy at West Point.

English Cast Steel Grass Scythes, &c.

JUST received and for sale at the AGRICULTURAL ESTABLISHMENT, No. 20, Merchants' Row,

☞Twenty dozen Cam's superior Cast Steel Scythes—10 do. Passmore's do.

Also—A further supply of Stevens' patent steel spring 2 and 3 tined Hay Forks; together with a great variety of Ploughs, Rakes, Hoes, &c. &c.

Likewise—3 of Stafford's patent cylinder Churns.

June 21.

TREATISE ON AGRICULTURE.

ONE set of BEATSON'S TREATISE ON AGRICULTURE, for sale at the Agricultural Establishment, No. 20, Merchants' Row. June 21.

TERMS OF THE FARMER.

☞Published every Saturday, at THREE DOLLARS per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within *sixty days* from the time of subscribing will be entitled to a deduction of FIFTY CENTS.

☞No paper will be discontinued (unless at the discretion of the Publisher) until arrearages are paid.

☞Complete files from the commencement of the paper in August can be furnished.

☞Agents who procure seven subscribers, and become responsible for the payment, will be entitled to a copy gratis, and in the same proportion for a larger number.

☞*Notice to Subscribers, and others who are disposed to patronize the New England Farmer.*

The 26th day of July next will complete one year since the commencement of the NEW ENGLAND FARMER; and the paper issued on that day will close the first volume. It is the present determination of the proprietor to continue it unless something untoward and unforeseen should occur to darken the prospect of the eventual success of his establishment.

Gentlemen whose names are now on the list of subscribers to this paper are respectfully solicited to continue their patronage; and those who do not give us notice to the contrary, on or before the 15th day of July next, will be considered as subscribers for the second volume.

The subscription of every person who wishes to take the New England Farmer, must in future commence with the commencement of a volume. We are under the necessity of printing the same number of papers throughout the year, for the purpose of accommodating gentlemen who wish to be furnished with complete sets of the numbers, which compose each volume. If we deliver a part of those numbers only to a subscriber, *a whole volume will be broken, and only* A PART *of a volume paid for.*

The terms of the paper for the second volume will be the same as for the present, and are given in each paper.

With regard to our past labors in endeavoring to make the New England Farmer useful and acceptable to the public, it behoves us to say but little, lest what we observe should look like egotism if we speak well of our own efforts, and of *affected* humility if we acknowledge our defects. We shall merely suggest, that although we have been so fortunate as to receive written as well as verbal testimonials from our most able agriculturists, very much in favor of the manner in which the paper is conducted, and are assured that it is "doing great good to the agricultural interests of the country;" yet, unless we have an addition of three or four hundred subscribers for our next volume, we shall suffer considerable pecuniary loss by undertaking to print this paper, and the loss will fall upon persons who are not well able to sustain it.

We would again solicit our friends to use their influence to add to our list of subscribers, and thereby strengthen our hands and encourage our hearts in an undertaking, in whose success, as it would be easy to prove, every member of the community is interested. Without requisite supplies of *oil*, no care in *trimming* our lamp of agricultural knowledge can possibly keep it burning.

Those gentlemen, whose liberality, punctuality in making payments, exertions in procuring subscribers, and contributions of a literary and scientific nature, have laid us under obligations, and stamped upon our paper whatever value it possesses, will please to accept of our grateful acknowledgments; and it shall be our ambition to merit the continuance of their kindness. June 21.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c.

[Revised and corrected every Friday.]

			FROM D. C.	TO D. C.
ASHES, pot, 1st qual.		ton.	145 00	147 00
pearl do.			155 00	157 00
BEANS, white,		bush	1 00	1 08
BEEF, mess, 200 cwt.		bbl.	9 50	9 75
cargo, No 1,			8 50	8 75
" No 2,			7 00	7 25
BUTTER, inspect. 1st qual.		lb.	12	13
" 2d qual.			10	11
small kegs, family,			14	15
CHEESE, new milk			7	8
FLAX			8	9
FLAX SEED		bush	85	90
FLOUR, Baltimore, superfine,		bbl.	7 75	7 87
Genessee			7 62	7 87
Rye, best			4 75	5 00
GRAIN, Rye		bush	72	75
Corn			63	65
Barley			68	70
Oats			40	42
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort		lb.	10	
HOPS, No 1,			10	12
LIME,		cask	1 25	1 50
OIL, Linseed, American		gal.	65	00
PLAISTER PARIS		ton.	3 00	3 25
PORK, Navy Mess		bbl.	12 00	12 50
Bone Middlings			14 00	14 50
Cargo, No 1,			12 00	12 50
Cargo, No 2,			11 00	11 50
SEEDS, Herd's Grass		bush	2 00	2 25
Clover		lb.	8	9
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed			55	62
do do unwashed			46	50
do 3-4 washed			50	55
do 1-2 do			45	47
Native	do		38	40
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort			55	60
do Spinning, 1st sort			50	55
PROVISION MARKET.				
BEEF, best pieces		lb.	10	12
PORK, fresh			7	8
VEAL,			6	7
LAMB, per quarter			37	50
POULTRY,			10	12
BUTTER, keg & tub			13	14
lump, best			16	18
EGGS,		doz.	12	12
MEAL, Rye,		bush	75	80
Indian,			75	
POTATOES,			40	45
CIDER, liquor,		bbl.	1 50	2 25
HAY, best,		ton.	20 00	22 00

RURAL SCENES.

Now summer comes, with flowers and verdure crown'd,
And high luxuriant grass o'er spreads the ground,
The laboring swain, with crooked scythe is seen,
Shaving the surface of the waving green;
Of Flora's mantle he disrobes the land,
And strips the meadows with a sweeping hand;
While with the mounting sun the landscape glows,
The fading herbage round he loosely throws,
To catch the ardor of the scorching rays,
Which Sol emits in fierce meridian blaze.
But, if some sign portends th' untimely shower,
The rustic prophet sees the thrcat'ning hour;
His sun-burnt hands the scythe and fork forsake,
And spotless nymphs may now embrace—a rake!
In petty mounds the fragrant harvest grows,
And spreads along the fields in lengthen'd rows.

Now when the height of heav'n bright Phœbus gains,
And pours a flood of glory o'er the plains;
When panting cattle seek the cooling lake,
And in the sultry pathway basks the snake;
O lead me, guard me from the burning hours,
Hide me, ye forests, in your closest bowers,
Where oaks majestic, branching arms entwine,
With beech and birch and evergreens combine,—
Spread parasols betwixt the earth and heaven,
And make at noon an artificial even—
Where flows the brawling brooks, for poet's themes
And waving ivies overhang the streams,
Stretch'd on a mossy couch give me repose,
Sweet sleep, which sloth or luxury never knows.

From the Monthly Literary Journal, published at Concord, (N. H.) by J. B. Moore.

INSTANCE OF LONGEVITY.

Communicated in a letter to one of the Editors by JOHN M. HUNT, Esq. of Dunstable.

Respecting old Mr. Lovewell, I have not been able to procure much information relative to his life and character; however, if we may rely on tradition, the following succinct account may be considered pretty correct. ZACCHEUS LOVEWELL, of Dunstable, who lived to the remarkable age of one hundred and twenty years, was a native of England. He had the honor of serving as an Ensign in the army of Oliver Cromwell, the Protector, and, upon the overthrow of the Commonwealth, and the accession of Charles II. to the throne of his unfortunate father, he left his native country, emigrated to New-England, and settled somewhere in this vicinity. In the disturbances which so frequently armed the early settlers of this country against the savages of the wilderness, in which the offspring of Mr. Lovewell bore such honorable parts and acquired so many laurels, he remained an idle spectator, always maintaining the strictest neutrality. In his conversations with the Indians, they frequently told him of the many opportunities they had of taking his life, while lying concealed in ambush, but on account of his great friendship for them, together with the circumstance of his having white hair (for which scalps the French government paid no bounty) they never molested him. Not much is known respecting his family, excepting his three sons, who were all distinguished men, and worthy the remembrance of their countrymen. Zaccheus was a colonel, and is mentioned by Dr. Belknap; Jonathan was known as a minister, representative and judge; and John was the celebrated hero of Pequawkett.

Dunstable, May 23, 1823.

AUTHENTIC ANECDOTE.

Communicated by Dr. ISAAC STEARNS, of Dunbarton.

Capt. Caleb Page and Robert Hogg were among the first inhabitants of Dunbarton, and experienced all the privations, hardships, and fears, attendant on settlers of a new country.—Page removed from Atkinson; was somewhat above the generality of first settlers as to property; and withal was a very liberal spirited man, imparting his advice and assistance to his neighbors on many occasions. Hogg came from Ireland; was poor, ignorant of the customs of the country, and of the art of husbandry; but he had a good education for that time, and was often employed to instruct the children of his neighbors, by which means he obtained the appellation of *master*. An anecdote is related of these two men characteristic of the cordiality and friendship that subsisted among the early settlers of our country, and which was not suffered to be embittered by the most severe jests. Hogg, wishing to plant some potatoes, and having understood that people used manure to increase their growth, applied to Capt. Page to know what he must use, as he had no manure. Page told him that rotten hemlock would answer every purpose as a substitute. He accordingly applied a shovel full to each hill. The heat and dryness of this substance was such that it prevented the potatoes from vegetating. Being asked a few weeks after how his potatoes looked, Hogg replied, "They have denied the resurrection, for not one of them has come up." Mr. Hogg, however, soon found out the joke that had been put upon him, and without any ill-will waited for an opportunity to retaliate in his own way. Being sent to by Page for tobacco plants, he sent him a quantity of young mullens, which, when young, bear a great resemblance to tobacco plants. Page had them very carefully set out, when lo! instead of tobacco, he raised a fine crop of *mullens*. At harvest-time, Page ordered his men to fill a cart body full of potatoes and take over to neighbor Hogg; this was accordingly done. Master Hogg likewise, sent Page a large roll of *home* raised tobacco.—*ibid.*

ANIMAL INSTINCT.

In the "Introduction to Entomology," by Kirby & Spence, vol. ii, p. 502, the following very remarkable instance of the power of discovering home, exhibited by an ass, is communicated on the authority of Lieut. Alderman, of the royal engineers, who was personally acquainted with the facts.

"In March, 1816, an ass, the property of Capt. Dundas, of the royal navy, then at Malta, was shipped on board the Ister frigate, Capt. Forrest, bound from Gibraltar for that island. The vessel having struck on some sands off Point de Gat, at some distance from the shore, the ass was thrown overboard to give it an opportunity of swimming to land; a poor one, for the sea was running so high, that a boat which left the ship was lost. A few days afterwards, however, when the gates of Gibraltar were opened in the morning, the ass presented himself for admittance, and proceeded to the stable of Mr. Weeks, a merchant, which he had formerly occupied, to the no small surprise of this gentlemen, who imagined that, from some accident, the animal had never been shipped on board the Ister. On the return of this vessel to repair, the mystery was explained; and it turned out, that Valiante (as the ass was called) had not only swam safely to shore, but, without guide, compass, or travelling map, had found his way from Point de Gat to Gibraltar, a distance of more than two hundred miles, through a mountainous and intricate country, intersected by streams, which he had never traversed before, and in so short a period, that he could not have made one false turn. His not having been stopped on the road, was attributed to the circumstance of his having been formerly used to whip criminals upon, which was indicated to the peasants, who have a superstitious horror of such asses, by the holes in his ears, to which the persons flogged were tied."

CATERPILLARS.

The following paragraph is from the Woodstock (Vt.) Observer, of June 10th.

"Many of the orchards in this vicinity are suffering from the visitation of caterpillars.—These vermin infest the apple, plum, cherry, and other fruit trees, in some instances building their nests upon them, and in others assailing them in companies, devouring the leaves and then quitting them. A similar species of worm preyed upon the trees on the west side of the mountain last season. There it is said they travelled in a direct line, destroying the orchards that fell in their way. As a preventative, it is recommended to put upon the tree a circle of tar, which will prevent the ascent of the caterpillar, and preserve the foliage on trees where the worm is not bred."

Simplicity and Integrity of the Swiss Mountaincers.

A peasant named Frantz, came one evening to look for Gasper who was mowing a meadow, and said, "My friend, this is my harvest; thou knowest we have a dispute about this meadow; we know not to whom it properly belongs; to decide this question, I have collected the judges at Schwitz; come then tomorrow with me before them." "Thou seest Frantz, that I have mowed the meadow, I cannot be absent." "And I cannot send away the judges, who have fixed on this day; indeed we should have known to whom it belonged before it was mown." They had some little controversy on the subject; but at last Gasper said, "I will tell thee what thou shalt do. Go tomorrow to Schwitz; give the judges my reasons and thine; and I shall save the trouble of going myself." On this agreement Frantz went to plead for and against himself, and threw out the reasons on both sides as well as he could. When the judges had decided, he went to Gaspar: "The meadow is thine—the sentence is in thy favor."

People the earth with such men, and happiness will dwell there!

THE MILLER AND PAINTER.

A miller at P—, who lately quitted his mill to keep a public house, sent for a painter to paint him a sign, which he would have the mill. "I must have the miller looking out of the window." "It shall be done," said the painter.—"But as I never seem to be idle, you must make him pop in his head if any one look at him." This also the painter promised, and brought home the sign. "It is well done, but where is the miller?" "Oh," says the painter, "he popped in his head when you looked."